

Docket No. AB-164U

REMARKS**Election/Restrictions**

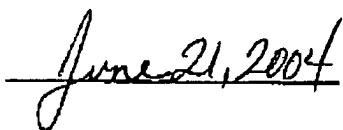
On page 2 of the Office action, restriction to one of the following inventions was required under 35 U.S.C. 121: group I, claims 1-12; group II, claims 13-18; and group III, claims 19-22. As stated above, applicant elects the invention set forth in group II, claims 13-18.

Election of Species

On page 3 of the Office action, the following "patentably distinct species of the claimed invention" were identified: "the subspecies of Fig. 1A; the subspecies of Fig. 1B; the subspecies of Fig. 2A; the subspecies of Fig. 2B; the subspecies showing multiple lumens (Fig. 3); the subspecies showing a single lumen." Applicant was required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Office action states "[c]urrently, no claims are generic."

Claims 13-18, which applicant has elected above, are believed to be generic to each of these species. As a result, applicant understands that no further election is required. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 1-12 and 19-22 in a continuing application(s).

Respectfully Submitted,


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Application No. 10/035,745
Response to Restriction Requirement dated June 21, 2004
Reply to Office Action dated May 21, 2004

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